

WASHINGTON, DC -- U.S. Rep. Linda Sánchez (D-CA) was officially sworn into the 111th Congress today for her fourth term representing the 39th district of California by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

"I am honored and humbled to continue to represent the people of southern California," said Sánchez. "I am ready to hit the ground running in the 111th Congress as we face enormous challenges as well as opportunities. I look forward to working with President-elect Barack Obama and my colleagues in Congress to bring change to Washington and the country."

Rep. Sánchez was selected on Monday to serve on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, which plays a key role in federal legislation on taxes and health care.

"Congresswoman Linda Sánchez' experience and intellect will serve as a strong asset to the Ways and Means Committee," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. "I am proud to see her break another barrier by becoming the first Latina to serve on Ways and Means and to continue her outstanding work on behalf of southern California."

"It is a privilege to join the exclusive ranks of the House Ways and Means Committee," stated Rep. Linda Sánchez. "I am eager to get to work on pocketbook issues that affect my California constituents and am proud to represent them on this influential committee."

Recognized by her colleagues and the national media as a leading voice on judiciary, labor and trade matters, Linda Sánchez has represented California's 39th Congressional district since 2003. The 39th district includes the communities of Artesia, Cerritos, Florence, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, La Mirada, Long Beach, Lynwood, Paramount, South Gate, Watts, Whittier, and Willowbrook.